NUMB. DXL.

The SPECTATOR.

---- *Non Deficit Alter.* Virg.

Wedneſday, November 19. 1712.

MR. SPECTATOR,

'THERE is no Part of your Writings which 'I have in more Eſteem than your Criti- 'ciſm upon *Milton*. It is an honourable 'and candid Endeavour to ſet the Works of our Noble Writers in the graceful Light which they deſerve. You will loſe much of my kind Inclination towards you, if you do not attempt the Encomium of *Spencer* alſo, or at leaſt indulge my Paſſion for that charming Author ſo far as to print the looſe Hints I now give you on that Subject.

'*Spencer*'s general Plan is the Repreſentation of ſix Virtues, Holineſs, Temperance, Chaſtity, Friendſhip, Juſtice, and Courteſy, in ſix Legends by ſix Perſons. The ſix Perſonages are ſuppoſed under proper Allegories ſuitable to their reſpective Characters, to do all that is neceſſary for the full Manifeſtation of the reſpective Virtues which they are to exert.

'Theſe one might undertake to ſhew, under the ſeveral Heads, are admirably drawn; no Images improper, and moſt ſurprizingly beautiful. The Red-croſs Knight runs thro' the whole Steps of the Chriſtian Life; *Guyon* does all that Temperance can poſſibly require; *Britomartis* (a Woman) obſerves the true Rules of unaffected Chaſtity; *Arthegal* is in every Reſpect of Life ſtrictly and wiſely juſt; *Calidore* is rightly courteous.

'In ſhort, in *Fairy-Land*, where Knights-Errant have a full Scope to range, and to do even what *Arioſto*'s or *Orlando*'s could not do in the World without breaking into Credibility, *Spencer*'s Knights have, under thoſe ſix Heads, given a full and a truly Poetical Syſtem of Chriſtian, Publick, and Low Life.

'His Legend of Friendſhip is more diffuſe, and 'nd yet even there the Allegory is finely drawn, only the Heads various, one Knight could not there ſupport all the Parts.

'To do Honour to his Country, Prince *Arthur* is an Univerſal Hero; in Holineſs, Temperance, Chaſtity, and Juſtice ſuper-excellent. For the ſame Reaſon, and to compliment Queen *Elizabeth*, *Gloriana*, Queen of Fairies, whoſe Court was the Aſylum of the Oppreſſed, repreſents that glorious Queen. At her Commands all theſe Knights ſet forth, and only at her's the Red-croſs Knight deſtroys the Dragon, *Guyon* overturns the Bower of Bliſs, *Arthegal* (i. e. *Juſtice*) beats down *Geryoneo* (i. e. *Phil.* II. King of *Spain*) to reſcue *Belge* (i. e. *Holland*,) and he beats the *Grantorto* (the ſame *Philip* in another Light) to reſtore *Irena* (i. e. *Peace to* Europe.)

'*Chaſtity* being the firſt Female Virtue, *Britomartis* is a *Britain*; her Part is fine, tho' it requires Explication. His Stile is very Poetical; no Puns, Affectations of Wit, forced Antitheſes, or any of that low Tribe.

'His old Words are all true *Engliſh*, and Numbers exquiſite; and ſince of Words there is the *Multa Renaſcentur*, ſince they are all proper, ſuch a Poem ſhould not (any more than *Milton*'s) ſubſiſt all of it of common ordinary Words. See Inſtances of Deſcriptions.

Cauſleſs Jealouſy in *Britomartis*, V. 6, 14. in its Reſtleſſneſs.

Like as a wayward Child, whoſe ſounder Sleep
Is broken, with ſome fearful Dreams affright,
With froward Will doth ſet himſelf to weep,
Ne can be ſtill'd for all his Nurſe's Might,
But kicks, and ſqualls, and ſhrieks for fell Deſpight;
Now ſcratching her, and her looſe Locks miſuſing,
Now ſeeking Darkneſs, and now ſeeking Light;
Then craving Suck, and then the Suck refuſing;
Such was this Ladies Loves in her Love's fond accuſing.

Curioſity occaſioned by Jealouſy, upon Occaſion of her Lover's Abſence. *Ibid. St.* 8, 9.

Then as ſhe looked long, at laſt ſhe ſpy'd
One coming towards her with haſty Speed,

Well

Well ween'd she then, e'er him she plain descry'd,
That it was one sent from her Love indeed:
Whereat her Heart was fill'd with Hope and Dread,
Ne would she stay till he in Place could come,
But ran to meet him forth to know his Tidings soomne;
Even in the Door him meeting, she begun,
And where is he, thy Lord, and how far hence?
Declare at once; And hath he lost or won?

Care and his *House* are described thus, IV. 6. 33, 34, 35.

Not far away, not meet for any Guest,
They spy'd a little Cottage, like some poor Man's Nest,

34.

There entring in, they found the good Man self
Full busily unto his Work ybent,
Who was so weel a wretched wearish Elf,
With hollow Eyes and raw-bone Cheeks forspent,
As if he had in Prison long been pent.
Full black and grisly did his Face appear,
Besmeard with Smoak, that nigh his Eye-sight blent,
With rugged Beard and hoary shagged heare,
The which he never wont to comb, or comely shear.

35.

Rude was his Garment, and to Rags all rent,
Ne better had he, ne for better cared;
His blistred Hands amongst the Cinders brent,
And Fingers filthy, with long Nails prepared,
Like fit to rend the Food on which he fared.
His Name was Care; a Blacksmith by his Trade,
That neither Day nor Night from working spared,
But to small Purpose Iron Wedges made.
These be unquiet Thoughts that careful Minds invade.

'Homer's Epithets were much admired by Antiquity: See what great Justness and Variety there is 'in these Epithets of the Trees in the Forest where 'the Red-cross Knight lost *Truth*. B. 1. Cant. 1. 'St. 8, 9.

The sailing Pine, the Cedar proud and tall,
The Vine-prop Elm, the Poplar never dry,
The Builder Oak, sole King of Forests all,
The Aspine good for Staves, the Cypress Funeral.

9.

The Lawrel Meed of mighty Conquerors,
And Poets sage; the Fir that weepeth still,
The Willow worn of forlorn Paramours,
The Eugh obedient to the Bender's Will,
The Birch for Shafts, the Sallow for the Mill;
The Myrrhe sweet, bleeding in the bitter Wound,
The warlike Beech, the Ash for nothing ill,
The fruitful Olive, and the Platane round,
The Carver Holm, the Maple seldom inward sound.

'I shall trouble you no more, but desire you to 'let me conclude with these Verses, tho' I think 'they have already been quoted by you: They 'are Directions to young Ladies oppress't with Calumny. VI. 6. 14.

The best (said he) that I can you advise,
Is to avoid the Occasion of the Ill;
For when the Cause whence Evil doth arise
Removed is, the Effect surceaseth still.
Abstain from Pleasure, and restrain your Will,
Subdue Desire, and bridle loose Delight,
Use scanted Diet, and forbear your Fill,
Shun Secrecy, and talk in open Sight,
So shall you soon repair your present evil Plight.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre-Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Wednesday, being the 19th of November will be presented a Comedy, call'd The Rover, or, The Banish'd Cavaliers: And to Morrow (at the Desire of several Persons of Quality) will be presented the History and Fall of Caius Marius. By Her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

AN Entertainment by Mr. CLINCH of BARNET, who imitates the Flute, Double Curtel, the Organ with 3 Voices, the Horn, Huntsman and Pack of Hounds, the Sham-Doctor, the Old Woman, the Drunken-Man, the Bells: All Instruments are performed by his natural Voice. To which is added an Extempore Song by Mr. Clinch himself. To be seen this present Evening at 7 a Clock, at the Queen's-Arms Tavern on Ludgate-Hill. Price 1 s.

In a few Days will be Publish'd,

A Poem intituled, An Ode to the Creator of the World, occasion'd by the Fragments of Orpheus. Printed for Jacob Tonson, at Shakespear's Head over-against Catherine-street in the Strand.

A Catalogue of Books, Ancient and Modern; consisting of Greek, Latin, English, French, and Italian; With Classick Authors, Philosophy, Divinity, Law, Mathematicks, Poetry and History. Collected by a curious Gentleman, who travelled several Years in Foreign Countries. To be Sold by Auction at Mr. Ossel's in Seymour's Court in Shandois-street near St. Martin's Church, on Monday the 24th of this Instant November 1712, at 5 in the Evening, and to continue every Day till all be sold. Catalogues are to be had at the following Coffee-houses, viz. St. James's, Smyrna's, Giles's, in St. James's, White's Chocolate-house, British, Young Man's, Old Man's, at Charing-Cross, Rainbow, Tom's, Slaughter's, in St. Martin's-Lane, Will's, Tom's, in Covent-Garden, Nandoi's, Nixson's, in Fleet-street, Latin, Child's, near St. Paul's-Church, Rowles, in Chancery-Lane, Grecian, in Devereux-Court, Garroway's, in Exchange-Alley; and at the Place of Sale, where the Books are to be seen Two Days before the Sale begins.

At the old Warehouse, is just now made up a fresh Parcel of Morning-Gowns for Men and Women of Brocades, rich Damasks, Satteens, Callicoes and Stuffs, with very suitable Linings; and will be sold much cheaper than the Shops can afford, the Goods being bought of People that broke. Several pretend to sell under the same Notion, but the greatest Choice and best Penny-worths is at the golden Sugar-Loaf right against the Horse at Charing-Cross, with the newest sort of Canvis and Quilted Petticoats.

WILLIAM TAZWELL, whose experienced Success is undeniable, undertakes to accomplish Gentlemen or other Persons of either Sex above the Age of 14 Years, in the compleat knowledge of the Latin Tongue, and make them capable of rendring Latin into English, and English into Latin, (by their Attendance only an Hour at a time 3 Days in a Week) in 3 Months time from his first beginning to teach them, tho' they never learnt the Language before: And that by an easie practical Method, entirely new, founded upon undeniable Reason and Experience, and so wholly free from the tedious Forms of Schools, as not to require much Study or Pains, or be in the least burthensome to the Memory, but is pleasant as well as profitable, and does not tire the Person's Patience in Learning, or break the Thoughts from, or hinder any Business. He is to be agreed with next the Blue Anchor and Crown in Prince's-Street near Stocks-Market, the lower-end of the Street, between the Hours of 2 and 6 in the Afternoon, his Business requiring Attendance Abroad in a Forenoon.

This is to give Notice, That the Royal Chymical Wash-Balls for the Hands and Face, are removed from Mr. Lambert's the Glovers, to prevent the Publick's being imposed on by Counterfeits, and are now sold only at Mr. Allcroft's Toyshop at the Blue-Coat-Boy against the Royal Exchange in Cornhill, and at Mrs. Giles's, Milliner, next Hercules-Pillars Alley by the Temple. They have *above these 8 Years* been largely experienc'd and highly commended by all that use them, and that for making the Skin so delicately soft and smooth, as not to be paralleld by either Wash, Powder, Cosmetick, &c. they being indeed real Beautifiers of the Skin, by taking off all Deformities, as Tetters, Ring-worms, Morphew, Sun-burn, Scurf, Pimples, Pits or Redness of the Small-pox, and keeping it of a lasting and extream Whiteness. They soon alter red or rough Hands, and are admirable in Shaving the Head, for they not only give a more exquisite sharpness to the Razor, but so comfort the Brain and Nerves, as to prevent catching Cold. They are of a grateful and pleasant Scent, without the least Grain of Mercury, and are sold only by Mr. Allcroft, and Mrs. Giles, as above, price 1 s. each. and no where else in London by Retale, therefore beware of Counterfeits, which are not only ineffectual but may also prove dangerous.

LONDON: Printed for *S. Buckley* and *J. Tonson*, and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*.